



Aruba The News

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Carnaval royalty take over the island



Yesterday morning, February 8, Aruba's Prime Minister Nelson Oduber turned over the reigns of power without a qualm to this year's Prince and Panchos (Jesters), the official escorts of the carnival queens; the jesters who lead the parades and various events.

The mock ceremony is a beloved tradition of Carnival, which took place for the first time in front of the

Prime Ministers new offices. Attended by Aruba's newly elected queens for Carnival 55, and the out-going Mrs. Carnival 54 in her last official act before turning over her crown tonight.

Three sets of Princes and Panchos received from the Prime Minister Oduber their symbols of office. Children Prince "Pa Semper" Michénau Bernabela and Pancho "Companashi" Ferdinand

Bontekoe as well as Youth Prince "You Got" Rowney Ludwig Hermans and Pancho "The Look" Ethan Gyasi Muller were awarded bejeweled swords. Adult Pancho "Bo Haya" partnered with his Prince "Faya." Humphrey Opisba and Chris Vrolijk, received the "Key to the City" of Oranjestad.

In turn, tradition requires the adult Prince and Pancho to declare their new laws as rulers of the land, which usually require the people of Aruba to spend the next few weeks indulging in excessive revelry, and often some astute political satire.

During this past weekend Aruba was busy each day with Carnival events, which will continue through the week with the Djo-Djo night at the drive-inn theater on Tuesday, February 10. This will feature five island bands and great ambiance and entrance is free. This coming weekend kicks off with the Noord Children Parade and the famed Tivoli Lighting Parade in Oranjestad on Saturday night and the Oranjestad Children's Parade on Sunday, presided over by Aruba's carnival royalty in full regalia.

Long live the King... Claudius Phillips does it again!



One of Aruba's most talented musicians, vocalists and composers again took both crowns during the Road March and Calypso King contest that took place in the Centro di Bario (neighborhood center) Lago Heights this past Saturday night. Claudius Phillips, performing as "Mighty Talent" with his band OREO won the twin crowns. His road march song "Wuck Up Till Yo Drop" will be the official tune everyone will dance to during the remaining parades of Carnival 55. The prize winning Calyp-

so song is titled "Perempempen."

Mighty Campo also took twin trophies for second place in both competitions, with Eugene Kemp winning third place in the Calypso Contest and Kaiso Teddy claiming third in the Road March competitions.

This is not the first time that this multi-talented performer has won both titles, but has accomplished this amazing feat a number of times, the most recently in 2005.

Long live the king!